

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the following detailed claim listing.

1. (Original) A system for automatically processing a textual document, comprising:
means for identifying occurrences of a piece of text having a predetermined format in the textual document;
means for determining a depth-of-treatment value for each piece of formatted text in the textual document, the depth-of-treatment value indicating a depth of treatment in the textual document afforded to the particular piece of formatted text;
means for associating an abstract with each piece of formatted text in the textual document; and
means for generating a data record containing each identified piece of formatted text from the textual document, the depth-of-treatment value and the abstract associated with each piece of formatted text in the textual document.
2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the textual document comprises the written decision of a court for a particular legal case and wherein each piece of formatted text in the textual document comprises a citation to another legal authority, the citation indicating the location of the other legal authority.
3. (Original) The system of Claim 2, wherein each piece of formatted text further comprises a quotation from said other legal authority.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 3 further comprising means for identifying a quotation which is a candidate for being associated with a citation in the textual document, and means for verifying a source document for each candidate quotation in the textual document to generate verified quotation information.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 4, wherein the verifying means further comprises means for separating a quotation into one or more segment based on the location of a predetermined symbol in the quotation, means for calculating a word frequency value for each word in each segment, means for selecting a predetermined number of words in each segment, each selected word having a high word frequency value, means for generating a template of the quotation indicating the position of each of the selected words in each segment, and means for comparing the generated template to the text of the quotation in the source document.
6. (Original) The system of Claim 2 further comprising means for determining a phrase in the textual document indicating a negative treatment of another legal authority comprising means for parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word stem in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and means for verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of overrulings.
7. (Original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said parsing means comprises means for identifying each occurrence of a particular tense of the word stem, means for gathering words adjacent to each occurrence of the particular tense of the word stem, and means for selecting a negative treatment phrase based on the gathered words.
8. (Original) The system of Claim 2 further comprising means for determining a phrase in the textual document indicating a negative treatment of another legal authority comprising means for parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and means for verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of negative treatments.

9. (Original) The system of Claim 2, wherein said formatted text identification means further comprises means for identifying numerical digits in the textual document, means for locating, in proximity to the numerical digits, each occurrence of an abbreviation in the textual document, the abbreviation indicating the location of a written decision referred to by the piece of formatted text, and means for gathering the numerical digits and the abbreviations to identify a citation.
10. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said depth-of-treatment generating means comprises means for generating a depth symbol for each piece of formatted text in the textual document indicating a potential significance of the piece of formatted text.
11. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said depth symbol generating means comprises means for selecting a type of each occurrence of a piece of formatted text from a predetermined set of types, means for determining, for each piece of formatted text, the number of each type of occurrence of the piece of formatted text, and means for assigning the depth symbol to each piece of formatted text in the textual document based on the total number of occurrences of the text, the number of each type of occurrence of the text, and any verified quotations associated with the piece of formatted text.
12. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said depth symbol comprises a symbol having a predetermined number of elements corresponding to the depth-of-treatment value.
13. (Original) The system of Claim 4, wherein the subject matter classification means comprises means for identifying sentences adjacent to the occurrences of each piece of formatted text, means for executing a query for each piece of formatted text based on the identified sentences and a verified quotation associated with the piece of formatted text to generate one or more subject matter classification candidates and a belief score for each subject matter classification candidate, and means for selecting one or more of the subject matter classification candidates having a belief score above a predetermined threshold to

associate with the piece of formatted text.

14. (Original) The system of Claim 3, wherein said formatted text identification means comprises means for parsing the textual document into one or more paragraphs, means for identifying, for each paragraph, one or more tokens which indicate the presence of a quotation in the sentence, and means for determining, based on the identified tokens, quotations within the textual document.
15. (Original) A method for automatically processing a textual document, comprising:
identifying occurrences of a piece of text having a predetermined format in a textual document;
determining a depth-of-treatment value for each piece of formatted text in the textual document, the depth-of-treatment value indicating a depth of treatment in the textual document afforded to the particular piece of formatted text;
associating an abstract with each piece of formatted text in the textual document; and
generating a data record containing each identified piece of formatted text from the textual document, the depth-of-treatment value and the abstract associated with each piece of formatted text in the textual document.
16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein the textual document comprises the written decision of a court for a particular legal case and wherein each piece of formatted text in the textual document comprises a citation to another legal authority, the citation indicating the location of the other legal authority.
17. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein each piece of formatted text further comprises a quotation from said other legal authority.
18. (Original) The method of Claim 17 further comprises identifying a quotation which is a candidate for being associated with a citation in the textual document, and verifying a source document for each candidate quotation in the textual document to generate

verified quotation information.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the verifying further comprises separating a quotation into one or more segment based on the location of a predetermined symbol in the quotation, calculating a word frequency value for each word in each segment, selecting a predetermined number of words in each segment, each selected word having a high word frequency value, generating a template of the quotation indicating the position of each of the selected words in each segment, and comparing the generated template to the text of the quotation in the source document.
20. (Original) The method of Claim 16 further comprising determining a phrase in the textual document indicating a negative treatment of another legal authority comprising parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word stem in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of overrulings.
21. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein said parsing comprises identifying each occurrence of a particular tense of the word stem, gathering words adjacent to each occurrence of the particular tense of the word stem, and selecting a negative treatment phrase based on the gathered words.
22. (Original) The method of Claim 16 further comprising determining a phrase in the textual document indicating a negative treatment of another legal authority comprising parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of negative treatments.
23. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein said formatted text identification further comprises identifying numerical digits in the textual document, locating, in proximity to the numerical digits, each occurrence of an abbreviation in the textual document, the

- abbreviation indicating the location of a written decision referred to by the piece of formatted text, and gathering the numerical digits and the abbreviations to identify a citation.
24. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein said depth-of-treatment generating comprises generating a depth symbol for each piece of formatted text in the textual document indicating a potential significance of the piece of formatted text.
25. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said depth symbol generating comprises selecting a type of each occurrence of a piece of formatted text from a predetermined set of types, determining, for each piece of formatted text, the number of each type of occurrence of the piece of formatted text, and assigning the depth symbol to each piece of formatted text in the textual document based on the total number of occurrences of the text, the number of each type of occurrence of the text, and any verified quotations associated with the piece formatted text.
26. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said depth symbol comprises a symbol having a predetermined number of elements corresponding to the depth-of-treatment value.
27. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the subject matter classification comprises identifying sentences adjacent to the occurrences of each piece of formatted text, executing a query for each piece of formatted text based on the identified sentences and a verified quotation associated with the piece of formatted text to generate one or more subject matter classification candidates and a belief score for each subject matter classification candidate, and selecting one or more of the subject matter classification candidates having a belief score above a predetermined threshold to associate with the piece of formatted text.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein said formatted text identification comprises parsing the textual document into one or more paragraphs, identifying, for each paragraph, one or more symbols which indicate the presence of a quotation in the sentence, and determining, based on the identified symbols, quotations within the textual document.
- 29.-32. (Canceled)
33. (Original) An automatic text processing system, comprising:
means for identifying each occurrence of a piece of text having a predetermined format in the textual document; and
means for determining a value for each piece of formatted text in the textual document indicating a depth-of-treatment of the piece of formatted text in the textual document, the determining means comprising means for selecting a type of each occurrence of a piece of formatted text from a predetermined set of types, means for determining, for each piece of formatted text, the total number of occurrences of the piece of formatted text in the textual document and the number of each type of occurrence for each piece of formatted text, and means for assigning a depth-of-treatment value to each piece of formatted text in the textual document based on the total number of occurrences of the formatted text and the number of each type of occurrence of the formatted text.
34. (Original) The system of Claim 33 further comprising means for locating a quotation in the textual document and means for verifying a source document for a quotation in the document to generate a verified quotation, and wherein said assigning means further comprises means for determining a depth-of-treatment symbol based on any verified quotations associated with each piece of formatted text.
35. (Original) The system of Claim 34, wherein the verifying means further comprises means for separating a quotation into one or more segment based on the location of a

predetermined symbol in the quotation, means for calculating a word frequency value for each word in each segment, means for selecting a predetermined number of words in each segment, each selected word having a high word frequency value, means for generating a template of the quotation indicating the position of each of the selected words in each segment, and means for comparing the generated template to the text of the quotation in the source document.

36. (Original) The system of Claim 33, wherein the depth-of-treatment value generating means comprises means for generating a depth symbol that is associated with each piece of formatted text in the textual document.
37. (Original) The system of Claim 36, wherein said depth symbol comprises a symbol having a predetermined number of elements corresponding to the depth-of-treatment value.
38. (Original) An automatic text processing method, comprising:
identifying each occurrence of a piece of text having a predetermined format in the textual document; and
determining a value for each piece of formatted text in the textual document indicating a depth-of-treatment of the piece of formatted text in the textual document, the determining comprising selecting a type of each occurrence of a piece of formatted text from a predetermined set of types, determining, for each piece of formatted text, the total number of occurrences of the piece of formatted text in the textual document and the number of each type of occurrence for each piece of formatted text, and assigning a depth-of-treatment value to each piece of formatted text in the textual document based on the total number of occurrences of the formatted text and the number of each type of occurrence of the formatted text.
39. (Original) The method of Claim 38 further comprising locating a quotation in the textual

- document and verifying a source document for a quotation in the document to generate a verified quotation, and wherein said assigning further comprises determining a depth of treatment symbol based on any verified quotations associated with each piece of formatted text.
40. (Original) The method of Claim 39, wherein the verifying further comprises separating a quotation into one or more segment based on the location of a predetermined symbol in the quotation, calculating a word frequency value for each word in each segment, selecting a predetermined number of words in each segment, each selected word having a high word frequency value, generating a template of the quotation indicating the position of each of the selected words in each segment, and comparing the generated template to the text of the quotation in the source document.
41. (Original) The method of Claim 38, wherein the depth-of-treatment value generating comprises generating a depth symbol that is associated with each piece of formatted text in the textual document.
42. (Original) The method of Claim 41, wherein said depth symbol comprises a symbol having a predetermined number of elements corresponding to the depth-of-treatment value.
- 43.-58. (Canceled)
59. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for automatically processing a written opinion of a legal case~~ comprising:
means for-identifying each occurrence of a piece of text having a predetermined format,
the formatted text being a citation in ~~the written opinion~~ a written opinion of a legal case;
means for determining a value for each citation, the value indicating a depth-of-treatment afforded to the particular citation in the textual document;

- means for associating a subject matter classification with each citation; and
- means for generating a data record containing each citation, the depth-of-treatment value for each citation, and the subject matter classification associated with each citation.
60. (Original) The system of Claim 59, wherein each piece of formatted text further comprises a quotation from another prior written decision of a court.
61. (Original) The system of Claim 60 further comprises means for verifying a source for each quotation in the textual document to generate verified quotation information.
62. (Original) The system of Claim 61 , wherein the verifying means further comprises means for separating a quotation into one or more segment based on the location of a predetermined symbol in the quotation, means for calculating a word frequency value for each word in each segment, means for selecting a predetermined number of words in each segment, each selected word having a high word frequency value, means for generating a template of the quotation indicating the position of each of the selected words in each segment, and means for comparing the generated template to the text of the quotation in the source textual document.
63. (Original) The system of Claim 59 further comprising means for determining the negative history associated with the citations in the written opinion, the negative treatment determining means comprising means for parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word stem in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and means for verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of overrulings.
64. (Original) The system of Claim 63, wherein said parsing means comprises means for identifying each occurrence of a particular tense of the word stem, means for gathering words adjacent to each occurrence of the particular tense of the word stem, and means for

selecting a negative treatment phrase based on the gathered words.

65. (Original) The system of Claim 59 further comprising means for determining a negative treatment phrase in the textual document comprising means for parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and means for verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of negative treatments.
66. (Original) The system of Claim 60, wherein said citation identification means comprises means for locating each occurrence of a reporter name in the textual document, and means for gathering words adjacent to the reporter name to identify a beginning and an end of the citation.
67. (Original) The system of Claim 60, wherein said depth-of-treatment generating means comprises means for generating a depth symbol for each piece of formatted text in the textual document.
68. (Original) The system of Claim 67, wherein said depth symbol generating means comprises means for selecting a type of each occurrence of a piece of formatted text from a predetermined set of types, means for determining, for each piece of formatted text, the number of each type of occurrence of the formatted text, and means assigning a depth symbol to each piece of formatted text in the textual document based on the total number of occurrences of the formatted text, the number of each type of occurrence of the formatted text, and any verified quotations associated with the piece of formatted text.
69. (Original) The system of Claim 68, wherein said depth symbol comprises a symbol having a predetermined number of elements corresponding to the depth-of-treatment value.
70. (Original) The system of Claim 59, wherein the subject matter association means

comprises means for identifying sentences adjacent to the occurrences of each piece formatted text, means for executing a query for each piece of formatted text based on the identified sentences and any verified quotations associated with the piece of formatted text to generate one or more subject matter classifications and a belief score for each potential subject matter classification, and means for selecting one or more subject matter classifications having a belief score above a predetermined threshold to associate with the piece of formatted text.

71. (Original) The system of Claim 59, wherein said formatted text identification means comprises means for parsing the textual document into one or more paragraphs, means for identifying, for each paragraph, one or more tokens which indicate the presence of a quotation in the sentence, and means for determining, based on the identified tokens, quotations within the textual document.

72. (Original) A method for automatically processing a written opinion of a legal case comprising:
identifying each occurrence of a piece of text having a predetermined format, the formatted text being a citation in the written opinion;
determining a value for each citation indicating a depth-of-treatment afforded to the particular citation in the textual document;
associating a subject matter classification with each citation; and
generating a data record containing each citation, the depth-of-treatment value for each citation, and the subject matter classification associated with each citation.

73. (Original) The method of Claim 72, wherein each piece of formatted text further comprises a quotation from another prior written decision of a court.

74. (Original) The method of Claim 73 further comprises verifying a source for each quotation in the textual document to generate verified quotation information.

75. (Original) The method of Claim 74, wherein the verifying further comprises separating a quotation into one or more segment based on the location of a predetermined symbol in the quotation, calculating a word frequency value for each word in each segment, selecting a predetermined number of words in each segment, each selected word having a high word frequency value, generating a template of the quotation indicating the position of each of the selected words in each segment, and comparing the generated template to the text of the quotation in the source textual document.
76. (Original) The method of Claim 72 further comprising determining the negative history associated with the citations in the written opinion, the negative treatment determining comprising parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word stem in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of overrulings.
77. (Original) The method of Claim 76, wherein said parsing comprises identifying each occurrence of a particular tense of the word stem, gathering words adjacent to each occurrence of the particular tense of the word stem, and selecting a negative treatment phrase based on the gathered words.
78. (Original) The method of Claim 72 further comprising determining a negative treatment phrase in the textual document comprising parsing the textual document to identify occurrences of a predetermined word in the textual document indicating that the reasoning of a prior written decision of a court is not proper and verifying said identified word stems to generate a list of negative treatments.
79. (Original) The method of Claim 73, wherein said citation identification comprises locating each occurrence of a reporter name in the textual document, and gathering words adjacent to the reporter name to identify a beginning and an end of the citation.

80. (Original) The method of Claim 73, wherein said depth-of-treatment generating comprises generating a depth symbol for each piece of formatted text in the textual document.
81. (Original) The method of Claim 80, wherein said depth symbol generating comprises selecting a type of each occurrence of a piece of formatted text from a predetermined set of types, determining, for each piece of formatted text, the number of each type of occurrence of the formatted text, and assigning a depth symbol to each piece of formatted text in the textual document based on the total number of occurrences of the formatted text, the number of each type of occurrence of the formatted text, and any verified quotations associated with the piece of formatted text.
82. (Original) The method of Claim 81, wherein said depth symbol comprises a symbol having a predetermined number of elements corresponding to the depth-of-treatment value.
83. (Original) The method of Claim 72, wherein the subject matter association comprises identifying sentences adjacent to the occurrences of each piece of formatted text, executing a query for each piece of formatted text based on the identified sentences and any verified quotations associated with the piece of formatted text to generate one or more subject matter classifications and a belief score for each potential subject matter classification, and selecting one or more subject matter classifications having a belief score above a predetermined threshold to associate with the piece of formatted text.
84. (Original) The method of Claim 73, wherein said formatted text identification comprises parsing the textual document into one or more paragraphs, identifying, for each paragraph, one or more tokens which indicate the presence of a quotation in the sentence, and determining, based on the identified tokens, quotations within the textual document.

85.-86. (Canceled)

87. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 15.

88. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 19.

89. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 20.

90. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 27.

91.-92. (Canceled)

93. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 38.

94. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 40.

95.-98. (Canceled)

99. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 72.

100. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 75.

101. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 76.
102. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 78.
103. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 79.
104. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing execution of the method of Claim 80.
105. (Canceled)
106. (Previously Presented) A system for processing an electronic document, comprising:
a text-identification module for identifying pieces of text in the document;
a text-evaluation module for determining depth-of-treatment values for the identified pieces of text in the document, with each depth-of-treatment value indicating a significance of at least one of the identified pieces of text in the document;
a text-association module for associating related electronic documents with identified pieces of text in the document, with each related electronic document chosen based on text adjacent the identified text; and
a data-output module for outputting a data structure including at least one identified piece of text from the textual document, its corresponding document-treatment value, and its associated electronic documents.
107. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 106, wherein:
the text-identification module identifies pieces of text resembling legal citations;

- the text-association module associates legal headnotes with identified pieces of text in the document, with each headnote chosen based on text adjacent one of the identified pieces of text; and
- the data-output module outputs a data record including at least one identified piece of text from the textual document, its corresponding document-treatment value, and one or more associated legal headnotes.
108. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 106, wherein:
- the text-identification module identifies pieces of text resembling quotations from other electronic documents;
- the text-association module associates legal headnotes with identified pieces of text in the document, with each headnote chosen based on text adjacent one of the identified pieces of text; and
- the data-output module outputs a data record including at least one identified piece of text from the textual document, its corresponding document-treatment value, and one or more associated legal headnotes.
- 109.-110. (Canceled)
111. (Previously Presented) A document processing system comprising:
- a citation-identification module for identifying one or more citations in an electronic document;
- a depth-of-treatment module for determining a depth-of-treatment value for each citation, the depth-of-treatment value indicating a degree of significance of the citation within the document; and
- a depth-of-treatment-symbol generator for generating a symbol indicative of the degree of significance of each citation to the document.
112. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 111, wherein the depth-of-treatment module comprises:

means for associating one of two or more citation types with each of the one or more citations;

means for determining for each citation a set of two or more occurrence numbers, each occurrence number indicating the number of times the citation occurred within the document as a respective one of the citation types;

means for determining a total number of occurrences of each citation in the document;
and

means for assigning a depth-of-treatment value to each citation, based on the total number of occurrences of the citation and its set of occurrence numbers.

113. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 111, wherein one or more of the citations are legal citations.

114.-119. (Canceled)

120. (Previously Presented) A system for automatically processing an electronic legal document, comprising:
a citation-identification module for identifying one or more citations in an electronic document;
a depth-of-treatment module for determining a depth-of-treatment value for each citation, the depth-of-treatment value indicating a degree of significance of the citation within the legal document;
a classifier for associating a subject matter classification with each citation, based on text adjacent to the citation; and
a data-output module for outputting a data structure including at least one identified piece of text from the textual document, an indicator of its corresponding depth-of-treatment value, and its associated subject-matter classification.

121. (Previously Presented) A system for automatically processing a textual document, comprising:

- a citation-identifier for identifying one or more citations in the document;
- a quotation finder for finding one or more quotations and associated quotation-source identifiers within the document;
- a quotation-source verifier for verifying whether each of the found quotations is associated with a correct quotation-source identifier;
- a first text evaluator for determining whether text in the document agrees semantically with text in another document identified by at least one of the found citations;
- a second text evaluator for determining a depth-of-treatment value for each found citation, the depth-of-treatment value indicating a degree of significance of the found citation within the legal document;
- a classifier for associating a subject-matter classification with each found citation, based on text adjacent to the found citation and found quotations associated with the citation; and
- a data generator for outputting a data structure including at least one found citation, an indicator of its corresponding depth-of-treatment value, its associated subject-matter classification, and information about whether text in the document agrees semantically with text in another document identified by the one found citation.

122.-125. (Canceled)

126. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface for facilitating human interaction with a database of legal documents, the interface comprising:

- a first interface screen including:
 - a first data window for displaying one or more portions of a first legal document containing one or more citations to other legal documents; and
 - a first control interface adjacent the data window, the first control interface having first ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for indicating whether the first legal document includes at least one portion having compromised legal authority and for invoking display of a second interface screen.

127. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing generation of the graphical user interface of claims 126.
128. (Currently Amended) The graphical user interface of claim 126, wherein the second interface screen comprises:
a second data window for displaying one or more citations to other legal documents that reference the first legal document or other legal documents that the first legal document is otherwise related to; and
a second control interface adjacent the second data window, the second control interface having second ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for affecting the number or type of citations displayed in the second data window; and
third ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for invoking display of a third interface screen.
129. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing generation of the graphical user interface of claims 128.
130. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 128, wherein the second control interface further includes a visual indication of the number of citations in the second data window.
131. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 128, wherein the other documents that the first document is otherwise related to include documents for other judicial decisions relating to the same case as that for the first legal document.
132. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 128, wherein each displayed citation to other legal documents that reference the first legal document is displayed in association with a corresponding treatment label indicating how the legal document identified by the displayed citation treats the first document.

133. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 128, wherein at least one displayed citation is displayed in association with a quotation indicator that indicates the legal document identified by the one displayed citation quotes text from the first legal document.
134. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 128, wherein at least one displayed citation is displayed in association with a depth-of-treatment indicator that indicates how significant the first legal document is to the legal document identified by the one displayed citation.
135. (Currently Amended) The graphical user interface of claim 128, wherein the third interface screen comprises:
a third data window for displaying in a first mode one or more headnotes associated with the first legal document and for displaying in a second mode one or more subject-matter classifications associated with the first legal document; and
a third control interface adjacent the third data window, the third control interface including:
fourth ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for switching the third data window between the first and second modes;
fifth ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for selecting one or more headnotes; and
sixth ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for selecting one or more legal subject-matter classifications; and
seventh ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means for re-invoking display of the second control screen, with the second display window responsive to the fifth or sixth ~~user-selection~~ user-selectable means to limit display of citations based on the selected headnotes or the selected subject-matter classifications.
136. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing generation of the graphical user interface of claims 136.

137. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface for facilitating human interaction with a remote database of legal documents, the interface comprising:
a data window for displaying a first legal document;
first user-selection means for indicating whether the first legal document includes at least one portion having compromised legal authority and for causing the data window to display one or more citations to other legal documents that reference the first legal document; and
second user-selection means for affecting the number or type of citations displayed in the data window.
138. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 137, further comprising means, responsive to the first selection means, to display a visual indication of the number of citations in the data window.
139. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 138, wherein each displayed citation to other legal documents that reference the first legal document is displayed with a corresponding treatment indicator indicating how the legal document identified by the displayed citation treats the first document.
140. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 137, wherein at least one displayed citation is displayed with a quotation indicator that indicates the legal document identified by the one displayed citation quotes text from the first legal document.
141. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 138, wherein at least one displayed citation is displayed with a depth-of-treatment indicator that indicates how significant the first legal document is to the legal document identified by the one displayed citation.

142. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising coded segments for causing generation of the graphical user interface of claim 138.
143. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface for facilitating human interaction with a database of legal documents, the interface comprising:
a data window for displaying one or more portions of a first legal document containing one or more citations to other legal documents; and
at least one indicator for indicating how other legal documents have treated legal reasoning contained within the first legal document.
144. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 143, wherein the one indicator is displayed adjacent the data window.
145. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 143, wherein the indicator is displayed in a first color to indicate positive treatment by other legal documents and is displayed in a second color to indicate negative treatment by other legal documents.
146. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 143, wherein the indicator comprises user-selectable means for invoking display of one or more citations to other legal documents that reference the first legal document or other legal documents that the first legal document is otherwise related to.
147. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface for facilitating human interaction with a database of legal documents, the interface comprising:
a data window for displaying one or more portions of a first legal document containing one or more citations to other legal documents; and
means for indicating how other legal documents have treated legal reasoning contained within the first legal document.

148. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium encoded with a plurality of data structures for facilitating human interaction with a database of legal documents, each legal document including one or more citations to other legal documents in the database, wherein each data structure is associated with one of the legal documents and comprises: depth-of-treatment data associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, the depth-of-treatment data indicating significance of the one citation within the one legal document;
- subject-matter data associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, the subject-matter data indicating or describing a legal point contained within a legal document identified by the one citation;
- quotation-verification data indicating verification status of at least one quotation within the legal document; and
- treatment data associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, the treatment data indicating how the one legal document treats a legal document identified by the one citation.
149. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 148 wherein the depth-of-treatment data indicates significance of the one citation within the one legal document.
150. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 148 wherein the subject-matter data indicates or describes a legal point contained within a legal document identified by the one citation.
151. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 148 wherein the treatment data indicates whether the one legal document agrees with the associated legal document.
152. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium encoded with a plurality of data structures for facilitating human interaction with a database of legal documents, each

- legal document including one or more citations to other legal documents in the database, wherein each data structure is associated with one of the legal documents and comprises: depth-of-treatment data associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, the depth-of-treatment data indicating significance of the one citation within the one legal document.
153. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 152 wherein each data structure further comprises: subject-matter data associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, the subject-matter data indicating or describing a legal point contained within a legal document identified by the one citation.
154. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 153 wherein each data structure further comprises: quotation-verification data indicating verification status of at least one quotation within the legal document.
155. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 154 wherein each data structure further comprises: treatment data associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, the treatment data indicating how the one legal document treats a legal document identified by the one citation.
156. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium encoded with a plurality of data structures for facilitating human interaction with a database of legal documents, each legal document including one or more citations to other legal documents in the database, wherein each data structure is associated with one of the legal documents and comprises: depth-of-treatment means, associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, for indicating significance of the one citation within the one legal document;

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- subject-matter means, associated with at least one citation within the one legal document,
for indicating or describing a legal point contained within a legal document
identified by the one citation;
- quotation-verification means for indicating verification status of at least one quotation
within the legal document; and
- treatment means, associated with at least one citation within the one legal document, for
indicating how the one legal document treats legal points made in a legal
document identified by the one citation.
157. (New) A graphical user interface for facilitating human interaction with a database of
legal documents, the interface comprising:
a first interface screen including:
a first data window for displaying one or more portions of a first legal document
containing one or more citations to other legal documents; and
a first control interface adjacent the data window, the first control interface having first
user-selectable means for indicating whether the first legal document includes at
least one portion having compromised legal authority and for invoking display of
a second interface screen;
- wherein the interface is used to access a system comprising:
- means for identifying each occurrence of a piece of text having a predetermined
format, the formatted text being a citation in a written opinion of a legal
case;
- means for determining a value for each citation, the value indicating a depth-of-
treatment afforded to the particular citation in the textual document;
- means for associating a subject matter classification with each citation;
- means for generating a data record containing each citation, the depth-of-
treatment value for each citation, and the subject matter classification
associated with each citation.

158. (New) A graphical user interface for use with a database of legal documents, the interface comprising:
- a region defined to display at least a portion of a first citation to a first legal opinion; and
- at least one user-selectable color-coded indicator for display with the portion of the first citation when the first legal opinion references a compromised legal authority, the indicator defined to respond to a user selection by displaying information related to the first legal opinion.
159. (New) The interface of claim 158, wherein the user-selectable color coded indicator is selectable to cause display of at least one or more second citations to one or more corresponding second legal opinions that reference the first legal opinion.
160. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 159, wherein the user-selectable color coded indicator is selectable to cause display of at least one or more second citations, with at least one of the second citations displayed in association with a depth of treatment indicator for indicating significance of the first legal opinion within the corresponding second legal opinion.
161. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 160, wherein the user-selectable color-coded indicator is defined to display in a red color.
162. (New) A graphical user interface for use with a database of legal documents, the interface comprising:
- a region defined to display at least a portion of a first citation to a first legal opinion; and
- a user-selectable color-coded status indicator for display with the portion of the first citation, with the status indicator defined to display in a red, yellow, or blue color and defined to respond to a user selection by displaying further information related to the first legal opinion.

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163. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 162, wherein display of the status indicator is displayed in the red color at least when at least one second legal opinion overrules at least a portion of the first legal opinion.
164. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 162, wherein display of the status indicator is displayed in the blue color when one or more second legal opinions reference the first legal opinion, but do not treat it negatively.
165. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 162, wherein each user-selectable color-coded indicator is selectable to cause display of at least one or more second citations to one or more corresponding second legal opinions that reference the first legal opinion.
166. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 163, wherein the user-selectable color coded indicator is selectable to cause display of at least one or more second citations, with at least one of the second citations displayed in association with a depth of treatment indicator for indicating significance of the first legal opinion within the corresponding second legal opinion.
167. (New) A method comprising:
providing online access to at least a portion of a first legal opinion; and
providing one or more graphical user interface features, including a user-selectable icon, to a client access device in association with the first legal opinion, the user-selectable icon having an associated display color for indicating a status of the first legal opinion as legal precedent.
168. (New) The method of claim 167, wherein providing the user-selectable icon to the client access device in association with the first legal opinion comprises displaying the icon adjacent to at least a portion of a citation for the first legal opinion.

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169. (New) The method of claim 167, wherein providing the user-selectable icon to the client access device in association with the first legal opinion comprises displaying the icon adjacent to a window displaying text of the first legal opinion.
170. (New) The method of claim 167, wherein the user-selectable icon is defined to respond to user selection by causing display of information related to status of the first legal opinion as legal precedent.
171. (New) The method of claim 170, wherein the information related to status of the first legal opinion as legal precedent includes a list of cites to one or more corresponding second legal opinions that reference the first legal opinion.
172. (New) The method of claim 171, wherein one or more cites in the list of cites is displayed in association with a depth of treatment indicator, with each depth of treatment indicator for indicating significance of the first legal opinion within the one corresponding second legal opinion.
173. (New) The method of claim 167, wherein the associated display color is a red color when at least one second legal opinion overrules at least a portion of the first legal opinion.
174. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 167, wherein the associated display color is a blue color when one or more second legal opinions reference the first legal opinion, but do not treat it negatively.
175. (New) The method of claim 167, wherein providing online access to at least a portion of the electronic legal opinion occurs in response to a request from the client access device.
176. (New) The graphical user interface of claim 162, wherein at least a portion of the user-selectable color-coded indicator is defined to resemble a three-sided flag.